



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/796,426	03/09/2004	Brian Robert Prasky	POU920030068US1	1895
33558 7590 11/13/2008 INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION IPLAW DEPARTMENT 2455 SOUTH ROAD - MS P386 POUGHKEEPSIE, NY 12601				
EXAMINER JOHNSON, BRIAN P				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2183				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
11/13/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

***Notice of Non-Compliant
Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)***

Application No.

10/796,426

Examiner

BRIAN P. JOHNSON

Applicant(s)

PRASKY ET AL.

Art Unit

2183

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

The amendment document filed on 21 July 2008 is considered non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121 or 1.4. In order for the amendment document to be compliant, correction of the following item(s) is required.

THE FOLLOWING MARKED (X) ITEM(S) CAUSE THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT TO BE NON-COMPLIANT:

- ☐ 1. Amendments to the specification:
- ☐ A. Amended paragraph(s) do not include markings.
 - ☐ B. New paragraph(s) should not be underlined.
 - ☐ C. Other _____.
- ☐ 2. Abstract:
- ☐ A. Not presented on a separate sheet. 37 CFR 1.72.
 - ☐ B. Other _____.
- ☐ 3. Amendments to the drawings:
- ☐ A. The drawings are not properly identified in the top margin as "Replacement Sheet," "New Sheet," or "Annotated Sheet" as required by 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 - ☐ B. The practice of submitting proposed drawing correction has been eliminated. Replacement drawings showing amended figures, without markings, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 are required.
 - ☐ C. Other _____.
- ☐ 4. Amendments to the claims:
- ☐ A. A complete listing of all of the claims is not present.
 - ☐ B. The listing of claims does not include the text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims)
 - ☐ C. Each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim cannot be identified. Note: the status of every claim must be indicated after its claim number by using one of the following status identifiers: (Original), (Currently amended), (Canceled), (Previously presented), (New), (Not entered), (Withdrawn) and (Withdrawn-currently amended).
 - ☐ D. The claims of this amendment paper have not been presented in ascending numerical order.
 - ☐ E. Other: _____.
- ☒ 5. Other (e.g., the amendment is unsigned or not signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.4):

Examiner notes that Applicant has consistently offered claim amendments that are clearly non-compliant. An Office Action was sent on 21 April 2008 despite Applicant's consistent failure to comply; however, this cannot continue. Completing actions on the merits when claim amendments are non-compliant confuses the record. Examiner notes that it is NOT required to cancel non-compliant claims, but simply to assure amendments comply with 37 CFR § 1.121. Regarding the most recent action, at least claims 55-57 are still non-compliant. § 1.121(c)(3) states: "Any claim added by amendment must be indicated with the status of "new" and presented in a clean version, i.e., without any underlying." Examiner suggests carefully reviewing § 1.121 and assuring that all claims are compliant before resubmitting.

For further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP § 714.

TIME PERIODS FOR FILING A REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

- Applicant is given **no new time period** if the non-compliant amendment is an after-final amendment or an amendment filed after allowance. If applicant wishes to resubmit the non-compliant after-final amendment with corrections, the **entire corrected amendment** must be resubmitted.
- Applicant is given **one month**, or thirty (30) days, whichever is longer, from the mail date of this notice to supply the correction, if the non-compliant amendment is one of the following: a preliminary amendment, a non-final amendment (including a submission for a request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114), a supplemental amendment filed within a suspension period under 37 CFR 1.103(a) or (c), and an amendment filed in response to a *Quayle* action. If any of above boxes 1. to 4. are checked, the correction required is only the **corrected section** of the non-compliant amendment in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121.

Extensions of time are available under 37 CFR 1.136(a) **only** if the non-compliant amendment is a non-final amendment or an amendment filed in response to a *Quayle* action.

Failure to timely respond to this notice will result in:

Abandonment of the application if the non-compliant amendment is a non-final amendment or an amendment filed in response to a *Quayle* action; or

Non-entry of the amendment if the non-compliant amendment is a preliminary amendment or supplemental amendment.

/Eddie P Chan/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2183